

REMARKS

Claims 1, and 3-9 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required an election in the present application between:

Species I, FIGS. 1-8;

Species II, FIG. 9

Species III, FIG. 10; and

Species IV, FIG 11.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Species I, including claims 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

A. TRAVERSAL

It is respectfully submitted that the election of species requirement is improper in view of the fact that a reasonable number of species is set forth in the present application.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his election of species requirement and act on all of the claims in the present application. If the Examiner does persist in his election of species requirement, the Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims at a later date if they so desire.

If the Examiner determines that independent claim 1 is allowable, then all of the claims depending from claim 1 should be rejoined and considered allowable as well.

Application No.: 10/528,189
Reply dated April 23, 2007

Docket No.: 0048-0255PUS1
Art Unit: 3634

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: April 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By

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